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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/812,556	03/21/2001	Eiichi Ito	108863	2650
25944	7590	07/13/2007		
OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC P.O. BOX 19928 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320			EXAMINER AIRAPETIAN, MILA	
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/812,556	Applicant(s) ITO ET AL.	
	Examiner Mila Airapetian	Art Unit 3625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 June 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 13, 16 and 18-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 13, 16 and 18-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 06/28/2007 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 13, 16, 19, 20 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cannon in view of Stewart et al. (US 6,259,405).

Claim 13.

Cannon teaches a method for printing social expression cards in response to electronically transmitted orders comprising:

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preparing electronic personalized product producing data based on instructions provided to a customer prior to preparing the electronic personalized product producing data, the preparing including displaying the instructions to the customer, and entering and accepting the information by the customer to prepare the electronic personalized product producing data (col. 12, lines 55-67; col. 16, lines 15-16; col. 16, lines 30-31);

sending the personalized product producing data from the portable hand-held device by wireless communication to a producing facility (col. 18, line 15; col. 16, lines 15-17);

receiving, by wireless communication (col.16, line 15-17), electronic personalized product producing data in a first format (col. 18, line 15) and customer identification information (col. 20, line 28 – term “subscriber” indicated stored customer id);

electronically sequentially storing sets of the personalized product producing data and the customer identification information, each set including a piece of personalized product producing data and a piece of customer identification information (col. 17, lines 56-59);

electronically analyzing each piece of electronic personalized product producing data in the first format and converting it to a piece of electronic data in a second format (col. 17, lines 48-51);

receiving the piece of data in the second format and recording the piece of data in the second format on an output medium to produce a personalized product (col. 17, lines 8-11).

producing the personalized product (col. 19, line 7).

Cannon does not teach that producing of said product takes place at a specified location in order to receive the product; and

automatically notifying a customer of at least one of receipt of the electronic personalized product producing data and completion of the personalized product requested wherein the automated method incorporates the request and producing of the personalized product taking place within a facility where the customer is located, and delivery of the personalized product to the customer at the location where the personalized product is produced.

Stewart et al. (hereinafter Stewart) teaches geographic based communications service wherein the print job is transferred to the selected printing device (facility) where the customer is located (col. 20, lines 5-29).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Cannon to include that producing of said product takes place at a specified location in order to receive the product, as disclosed in Stewart, because it would advantageously allow the user not to wait until reaching an office or other place with appropriate equipment to receive messages and to transmit or print documents prepared by the MU (mobile user) on his portable computing device, thereby providing convenience to the user, as specifically taught by Stewart (col. 1, lines 50-54).

Stewart further teaches said method wherein the user is notified of the completion of the print job (col. 20, lines 30-32).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Cannon to include automatically notifying a customer of a

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completion of the print job, as specifically taught by Stewart, because it would advantageously allow to the user to employ their portable computing device more effectively and to utilize otherwise idle time, such as time spent waiting at the printing location, thereby providing convenience to the customer, as specifically taught by Stewart (col. 4, lines 24-26).

Claim 16. Cannon teaches all the limitations of claim 16 except for delivering the personalized product produced to a location within the limited, defined geographic area or facility designated by each piece of customer identification information.

Stewart teaches geographic based communications service wherein the mobile user picks up the print job at the nearest printing device, and wherein portable computing device (PCD) is configured to transmit a signal indicating a presence of the PCD as well as identification information indicating the mobile user (col. 20, lines 5-12, col. 2, lines 54-56).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Cannon to include that producing of said product takes place at a specified location in order to receive the product, as disclosed in Stewart, because it would advantageously allow the user not to wait until reaching an office or other place with appropriate equipment to receive messages and to transmit or print documents prepared by the MU (mobile user) on his portable computing device, thereby providing convenience to the user, as specifically taught by Stewart (col. 1, lines 50-54).

Claim 19. Stewart teaches said method including the producing and the storing are paired in each of a plurality of locations within the limited, defined geographic area

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or facility, each piece of e-mail received from each of the customers contains information about the personalized product device's location, designated by each of the customers (col. 20, lines 27-28); and

analyzing the data about the personalized product producing device's location, and transferring the image data to the personalized product producing device installed in a designated producing location, the personalized product producing device at the designated location producing the requested personalized product, and a storage device installed in the designated personalized product producing device, storing the produced personalized product (col. 2, lines 40-65; col. 20, lines 5-15).

The motivation to combine Cannon and Stewart would be to allow the user not to wait until reaching an office or other place with appropriate equipment to receive messages and to transmit or print documents prepared by the MU (mobile user) on his portable computing device, thereby providing convenience to the user, as specifically taught by Stewart (col. 1, lines 50-54).

Claim 20. Stewart teaches said method wherein a personalized product producing system is installed in a plurality of locations within the limited, defined geographic area or facility, and a receiver for receiving the wireless communication is installed in each of the plurality of locations and is allowed to receive only wireless communications transmitted from the customers within an area associated with each location of the plurality of locations (col. 20, lines 5-35).

The motivation to combine Cannon and Stewart would be to allow the user to pick up the print job at the nearest location convenient for the user.

Claim 22. See claim 16.

Claims 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Cannon and Stewart, as applied to claim 13, in view of Cockrill et al. (US 20030208442).

Claim 18. The combination of Cannon and Stewart teaches all the limitations of claim 18 including storing the produced personalized product in association with the customer information (col.5, lines 19-20; col. 18, lines 30-32; col. 20, line 28 – term “subscriber” indicated stored customer information); and

providing the stored personalized product associated with the customer information to each of the customers (col. 18, lines 50-51).

However Cannon and Stewart does not teach authenticating each of the customers based on the customer information; and upon confirmation of authenticity of each of the customers.

Cockrill teaches electronic commerce using a transaction network wherein the network authenticates the customer based on information provided by the customer.

It would have been obvious having ordinary skills in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Cannon and Steawart to include authenticating each of the customers based on the customer information, as disclosed in Cockrill (Abstract, [0013]), because it would allow only authorized users to access the system, thereby enhancing security of the system.

Claims 23 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Cannon and Stewart, as applied to claim 13, in view of Slyster et al. (US 6,174,579).

Claim 23. The combination of Cannon and Stewart teaches all the limitations of claim 13 except that the personalized product is one of a stamp, name card, and sticker/label.

Slyster et al. (Slyster) teaches printing personalized labels/stickers wherein said stickers could be affixed to the desired object (col. 6, lines 34-51).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Cannon and Stewart to include that said product includes labels, as disclosed in Slyster, because it would advantageously allow to employ said personalized products as a personalized return address label affixed to the greeting card (col. 6, lines 34-51).

Claim 24 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cannon in view of Stewart, and further in view of Slyster.

Claim 24. Cannon teaches a method for printing social expression cards in response to electronically transmitted orders comprising:

preparing electronic personalized product producing data on a portable handheld device based on instructions provided to a customer (col. 12, lines 55-67; col. 16, lines 15-16; col. 16, lines 30-31);

sending the personalized product producing data from the portable hand-held device by wireless communication to a producing facility (col. 18, line 15; col. 16, lines 15-17);

receiving, by wireless communication (col. 16, lines 15-17), electronic personalized product producing data in a first format and customer identification information (col. 20, line 28 – term “subscriber” indicates stored customer id);

electronically sequentially storing sets of the personalized product producing data and the customer identification information, each set including a piece of personalized product producing data and a piece of customer identification information (col. 17, lines 56-59);

electronically analyzing each piece of electronic personalized product producing data in the first format and converting it to a piece of electronic data in a second format (col. 17, lines 48-51);

receiving the piece of data in the second format and recording the piece of data in the second format on an output medium used to produce a personalized product (col. 17, lines 8-11).

Cannon does not teach:

producing the personalized product at a location to be specified in order to receive the product; and

automatically notifying the customer of at least one of receipt of the electronic personalized product producing data and completion of the personalized product requested, wherein the automated method incorporates the request and producing of

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the personalized product taking place within a facility where the customer is located, and delivery of the personalized product to the customer at the location where the personalized product is produced.

Stewart et al. (hereinafter Stewart) teaches geographic based communications service wherein the print job is transferred to the selected printing device (facility) where the customer is located (col. 20, lines 5-29).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Cannon to include that producing of said product takes place at a specified location in order to receive the product, as disclosed in Stewart, because it would advantageously allow the user not to wait until reaching an office or other place with appropriate equipment to receive messages and to transmit or print documents prepared by the MU (mobile user) on his portable computing device, thereby providing convenience to the user, as specifically taught by Stewart (col. 1, lines 50-54).

Stewart further teaches said method wherein the user is notified of the completion of the print job (col. 20, lines 30-32).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Cannon to include automatically notifying a customer of a completion of the print job, as specifically taught by Stewart, because it would advantageously allow to the user to employ their portable computing device more effectively and to utilize otherwise idle time, such as time spent waiting at the printing location, thereby providing convenience to the customer, as specifically taught by Stewart (col. 4, lines 24-26).

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Cannon also does not teach that said product is selected from the group consisting of a stamp, name card, and sticker/label.

Slyster teaches printing personalized labels/stickers wherein said stickers could be affixed to the desired object (col. 6, lines 34-51).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Cannon and Stewart to include that said product includes labels, as disclosed in Slyster, because it would advantageously allow to employ said personalized products as a personalized return address label affixed to the greeting card (col. 6, lines 34-51).

Claims 25 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Cannon and Stewart, as applied to claim 13, in view of Rourke (US 4,970,554).

Claims 25 and 26. The combination of Cannon and Stewart teaches all the limitations of claims 25 and 26 except explicitly teaching plurality of producing facilities within a facility wherein each of the plurality of producing facilities produces a different product.

Rourke teaches a job processing site having plurality of printers wherein each of the plurality of producing facilities produces a different product (col. 2, lines 39-50; col. 3, lines 42-45).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Cannon and Stewart to include plurality of producing facilities within a facility wherein each of the plurality of producing facilities produces a different product, as disclosed in Rourke, because it would advantageously allow the user to pick up the print job at the nearest location convenient for the user.

Claims 27 and 28. See reasoning applied to claim 25 and 26.

Claim 21 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Cannon and Stewart, as applied to claim 13, in view of Miyake et al. (US 6,906,815).

Claim 21. The combination of Cannon and Stewart teaches all the limitations of claim 21 except calculating upon receipt of each wireless communication, a number of wireless communications already received and operation condition of a personalized product producing device, and estimated time of completion of the requested personalized product; and automatically returning a wireless communication including the estimated time of completion to each of the customers.

Miyake teaches a print system capable of informing users of progress of print operations wherein the notification routine is executed for notifying a user of an expected print completion time (col. 6, lines 53-54, col. 2, lines 18-22).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Cannon and Stewart to include calculating upon receipt of each wireless communication, a number of wireless communications already received and operation condition of a personalized product producing device, and estimated time of completion of the requested personalized product; and automatically returning a wireless communication including the estimated time of completion to each of the customers, as disclosed in Miyake, because it would advantageously allow the user not to personally determine how much time is required until the printing is completed, thereby providing convenience to the user, as specifically taught by Miyake (col. 10, lines 35-38).

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 06/28/2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In response to Applicant's argument that the prior art does not teach that producing of personalized product takes place within a facility where the customer is located, it is noted that Stewart teaches said feature (col. 20, lines 5-29).

In response to Applicant's argument that the prior art does not teach calculating upon receipt of each wireless communication, a number of wireless communications already received and operation condition of a personalized product producing device,

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and estimated time of completion of the requested personalized product; and automatically returning a wireless communication including the estimated time of completion to each of the customers, it is noted the Miyake was applied for this feature (col. 10, lines 35-38).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mila Airapetian whose telephone number is (571) 272-3202. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9:30 am - 6:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's Acting supervisor, Naeem Haq can be reached on (571) 272-6758. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

MA

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Fadok', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Mark Fadok

Primary Examiner